

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yuen-Foo Michael Kou                      Art Unit : Unknown  
Serial No. : Not Yet Known                              Examiner : Unknown  
Filed : February 20, 2004  
Title : CIRCUIT BOARD COMPONENT AMBIENT MOISTURE EXPOSURE  
MONITORING

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant submits the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

This statement is being filed with the application. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the technique disclosed herein as prior art in continuing his examination. Applicant believes the following technique is used by electronic assembly manufacturers to comply with the guidelines outlined in Joint Industry Standard, IPC/JEDEC J-STD-033, April 1999, entitled "Standard for Handling, Packing, Shipping and Use of Moisture/Reflow Sensitive Surface Mount Devices."

Problems associated with moisture and reflow sensitive electronic devices are generally known in the art. To address these problems, electronic assembly manufacturers install environmental sensing devices (e.g., thermometers, relative humidity sensors, etc.) to measure ambient environmental parameters in electronic component storage areas. Periodically, manufacturer personnel visually inspect the environmental sensing devices and manually record environmental data indicated by those devices into a log. Typically, the data is either hand-written onto a piece of paper or manually entered into a computer database.

These manufacturers also track the movements of each set of electronic components through various sections of their facilities. This tracking of movements may be accomplished in a number of ways. For example, the manufacturer might maintain a hand written log to track

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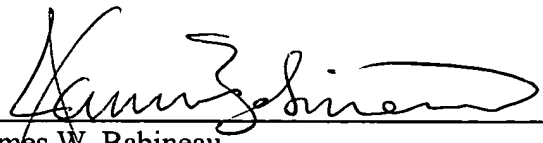
Attorney's Docket No.: 09215-011001

component locations. Alternately, the manufacturer might use a computer based tracking system that requires manufacturer personnel to manually enter component location information by hand.

Finally, sometime before exposing a component from a particular set to reflow conditions, the manufacturer performs a calculation to determine whether the electronic components are suitable for installation. This calculation may be performed by hand, or may be accomplished with the aid of a calculator or computer.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 20, 2004

  
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James W. Babineau  
Reg. No. 42,276

Fish & Richardson P.C.  
225 Franklin Street  
Boston, MA 02110-2804  
Telephone: 617-542-5070  
Facsimile: 617-542-8906

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  <b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)  (37 CFR §1.98(b))	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 09215-011001	Application No.
	Applicant Yuen-Foo Michael Kou		
	Filing Date February 20, 2004	Group Art Unit Unknown	

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	6,113,262	09/05/2000	Purola et al.	374	45	
	AB	5,867,809	02/02/1999	Soga et al.	702	130	
	AC	5,606,264	02/25/1997	Licari et al.	324	763	
	AD	5,450,018	09/12/1995	Rieser et al.	324	760	
	AE	5,434,737	07/18/1995	Miura	360	133	
	AF	5,024,532	06/18/1991	Rall	374	28	
	AG	4,939,469	07/03/1990	Ludwig et al.	324	694	
	AH	4,426,619	01/17/1984	Demand	324	73	
	AI	4,242,632	12/30/1980	Irvin	324	73	
	AJ	6,560,839	05/13/2000	Tow			
	AK	5,764,073	06/09/1998	Sadamatsu			
	AL	4,728,885	03/01/1988	DeSanto			
	AM	4,684,884	08/04/1987	Soderlund			

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AN	61-068514	04/1986	JP (Informal Translation)				
	AO	06-042986A	02/1994	JP (Abstract Only)				
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AS	"Joint Industry Standard", IPC/JEDEC J-STD-033, April 1999.
	AT	"MICROCHIP PIC12C67X", © 1999 Microchip Technology Inc.
	AU	Awtrey et al., "A1-Wire Humidity Sensor", Sensors The Journal of Applied Sensing Technology.
	AV	"DALLAS Semiconductor, DS2438 Smart Battery Monitor", <a href="http://www.dalsemi.com">www.dalsemi.com</a> , 04/10/01, pp 1-29.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

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Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AW	"Humidity Sensors Relative Humidity", Honeywell HIH Series, pp 99, 100.
	AX	"CYTHERM TEMPERATURE DATA LOGGER KEY", Dynasys Technologies Inc.

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	